

Weekly Status & Information Report: March 26 - 30, 2012

1. **Ward 3 Night - Monday!** Join the City Council and your neighbors in Ward 3 for a reception in the Atrium Lobby on Monday, April 2, 7-7:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. Following the reception, the first part of the City Council meeting will be dedicated to hearing from residents of Ward 3. Contact Jessie Carpenter at 301-891-7267 or JessieC@takomagov.org for additional information. *(City Clerk)*
2. **Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of April 2, 2012:**
 - City Council meeting, Monday, April 2, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium
 - Nuclear-Free Takoma Park Committee meeting, Monday, April 2, 7:30 p.m. in the Hydrangea RoomAll meetings are held in the Community Center and open to the public unless noted otherwise. *(City Clerk)*
3. **Old Doors/New Worlds Concert - Saturday, March 31:** Seven master artists, seven traditions, one extraordinary collaboration where anything can happen ... and just might. Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Admission Fee. <http://imfolk.org/> *(Housing and Community Development)*
4. **Sidewalk Repairs:** The City's program to repair and improve accessibility on existing City sidewalks is continuing. Work was completed last week in the Hodges Heights neighborhood and the contractor will be starting work on Holly Avenue next week. Residents have received a flyer with specifics about the work. In the work areas, there will be temporary parking restrictions. *(Public Works)*
5. **New Sidewalk Construction:** Work continues on the installation of new sidewalks in Ward 6. Sidewalks have been constructed on one block of Kennewick Avenue and Lockney Avenue. Next week work will continue on the second block of each of those streets. Following that work, sidewalk will be installed on Kirklynn Avenue. Tree replacement and bio-retention area construction (for stormwater management) will be addressed after the entire project is completed - likely late Summer to Fall of this year. *(Public Works)*
6. **Spring Break Camp - It's All Natural:** Hurry, sign up today as there are only a few spaces left. Spring Break Camp will run Monday, April 2 - Friday, April 7 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. each day. All participants must bring a bag lunch. Ages 5 - 11. Resident fee: \$140; Non-Resident fee \$160. Fee includes a trip to Rollingcrest pool and Botanical Gardens. For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at (301)891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*
7. **Spring Classes for Seniors:** A variety of new classes for seniors are coming soon to the Takoma Park Community Center: Knitting for Beginners - learn the basics of knitting (Monday, April 2); Writing Your Life - a six week workshop to write your life story (Tuesday, April 3); Senior Tennis - learn how to play (Thursday, April 12). For more information about these classes, please contact Paula Lisowski at 301-891-7280 or PaulaL@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*
8. **Monday are for Kids!** Join us Monday evening, April 2nd for "Bedtime Stories" at 7:00 p.m. For babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grownups. Come in p.j.s and bring a favorite stuffed toy. Also on April 2, Ms. Karen will have a special spring break storytime focused on classic children's picture books, from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m. All are welcome. *(Library)*
9. **Reading and Resumes:** On Wednesday, April 4, the friends Reading Group will discuss "The Leopard" by Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa in the Azalea Room. All are invited! Also on April 4, Gabe Heilig will conduct the first of a two part workshop on resume building for jobs in the public sector, with an emphasis on Federal jobs. Registration is required and space is limited. Call the Library to register or for information. *(Library)*
10. **Spring Break:** Kids are invited to spend a spring break afternoon doing crafts with Ms Karen, on Thursday, April 5, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Registration encouraged. *(Library)*
11. **Favorite Poem:** Friday, April 6 is the deadline for submitting the title of the poem you are going to read at the Favorite Poem Evening on April 10! Send your name, generic occupation and title of your poem to Ellen at ellenr@takomagov.org for inclusion in a printed program. All are welcome at this event, with refreshments provided by the Friends. *(Library)*
12. **Annual Easter Egg Hunt:** Spring is finally here and that can only mean one thing.....Easter!! The Recreation Department will be hosting its annual Easter Egg hunt on Saturday, April 7, 2012 at Lee Jordan Field (behind Takoma Park Middle School). The hunt will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m. and is for girls and boys ages 2 - 8. This event is one you won't want to miss, so get your baskets ready. For additional information please contact Lew McAllister at (301)891-7284 or LewM@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*
13. **WMATA Board Approves K9 Express Route for New Hampshire Avenue!** On March 8, the WMATA Board approved the creation of the K9 Metro Express route on New Hampshire Avenue during rush hour periods. Implementation of the K9 is planned for December 2012 and the route will serve three stops on the Takoma Park section of New Hampshire Avenue, with buses coming every 10 minutes in both directions. Details on the K9 recommendations can be found in the K6 Metrobus Line Study Final Report: <http://metrobus-studies.com/K6/K6%20Final%20Report.pdf>. *(Housing and Community Development)*
14. **Takoma Langley Crossroads Sector Plan:** After roughly five years in development, the Montgomery County Council unanimously approved, by straw vote, the adoption of the Takoma Langley Crossroads Sector Plan. The formal vote, which will incorporate by Resolution all of the revisions that have been endorsed by the City Council and the community during the development of the plan, is expected in late April. Attending the Council meeting on behalf of the City were Mayor Bruce Williams

and Councilmember Fred Schultz. Additional information on the plan and the forthcoming resolution will be posted on www.TheNewAve.com as it becomes available. *(Housing and Community Development)*

15. Bid Tabulations for the Sidewalk and Streetscape Construction Contract: The bid opening for the Three Year Indefinite Quantities Sidewalk and Streetscape Construction Contract took place Thursday, February 23. Tabulated bid results will be available for download from the City website next week. For more information, contact Nima Upadhyay at 301-891-7219 or nimau@takomagov.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

16. Save the Date - April 10 Open House on Montgomery County Zoning Rewrite: Park and Planning Staff will provide information on the Zoning Rewrite project underway in Montgomery County. At the open house meetings, attendees can view graphics and other materials that explain what's being considered, such as potentially reducing the number of zones and how new zones might apply in communities. Participants at each open house will see exactly how what's proposed applies to their neighborhood. The meeting will provide information on master plan area that includes Takoma Park. The Open House is 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 10 at the Park and Planning Headquarters, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring. *(Housing and Community Development)*

17. First Time Home Buyer Class - April 14: It's not too late to register for the First Time Home Buyer class that will be held on Saturday, April 14, from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. A HUD-approved nonprofit housing agency sponsors the program and a certificate is awarded to attendees that can be used to access county and state low interest loan programs. The class is free of charge to Takoma Park residents and \$25 for nonresidents. Pre-registration is required by calling 301-891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

18. The First Recycling Artist-in-Residence Program - Deadline April 30: Artists working with re-cycled materials are encouraged to apply for this brand new two-month summer residency, complete with studio space, beginning July 1. This is a unique opportunity to be Takoma Park's very first Artist-in-Residence working solely with reclaimed and re-purposed materials in your artwork. For more information and a copy of the submissions package, contact Sara Anne Daines at SaraD@takomagov.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

19. Exhibitions Director - Deadline April 30: The Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission is seeking an individual to coordinate the Takoma Park Community Center exhibits program beginning July 1. The Exhibits Director serves as the key point of contact for the exhibits program, soliciting and reviewing proposals, and assisting exhibitors in logistical activities. For more information and a copy of the submissions package, contact Sara Anne Daines at SaraD@takomagov.org. *(Housing and Community Development)*

20. 2012 Homeowners and Renters Property Tax Credit Applications Available: Are you eligible for a tax credit? Homeowners and Renters' Property Tax credit applications are now available for the 2012 tax year. Although the deadline for filing is September 1, filing by May 1 may mean that the credit is applied directly to your July 1 tax bill. The tax credit program is designed to help low or fixed income home owners or renters, by limiting the amount they must pay in property taxes. To receive the tax credit, an application and supporting documentation must be sent to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation every year. To obtain an application go to <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/taxcredits.html> or call Linda Walker at 301-891-7222. *(Housing and Community Development)*

21. Softball Deadline – April 6, 2012: Friday, April 6, is your last chance to register for the 2012 Adult Softball League. This league is coed and all games are played on Sunday mornings. Registration Deadline is April 6 – so don't miss out. For more information please contact EricR@takomagov.org or call (301) 891-7290. www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation/flyers/softball_flyer_2012_color_for_web.pdf. *(Recreation)*

22. Teen Fitness Program is Going Well!: On Monday, Wednesday and Friday @ 6:00 p.m., Takoma Park Recreation Center holds a Teen Fitness program for ages 12-17. This program offers teens the opportunity to improve their strength and athletic skills. Teens are excited to test their skills with fitness instructor Cedric Brickey. For more information contact John Webster at 301-891-7289. *(Recreation)*

23. Youth Job Fair: On Saturday March 24, the Recreation Department took a group of teens to Montgomery Blair High School for the "Let's Get It Started" Youth Job Fair. There were over 30 different employers at the fair. The teens came prepared, dressed as if they were going on a job interview and most of them brought a resume with them. The teens received great information about becoming a part of the workforce. A couple of the teens did participate in on-site interviews. One teen, Amber Hall, was eventually hired on-site after her interview. The fair was a great success as every teen that participated either received a job opportunity or info on what tools they needed to possess in order to land a job in the near future. *(Recreation)*

24. Teen Spring Break Camp: Spring Break is here for Montgomery County Students and as of next week Monday April 2, our Teen Spring Break Camp begins. During Spring Break Camp we will volunteer everyday of the week at various non-profit facilities such as Wider Circle Foundation, ICC Faith Clothing Center, and food shelters. Participants will be serve and prepare meals, sort clothing and school supplies, distribute toys, and much more during the week. Volunteer activities will take place in the morning and in the afternoon young people will enjoy a field trip filled with fun and excitement. Teens will receive credit towards their required student service learning hours for school. For more information contact Bradley Williams at 301-891-7283 or by email at bradleyw@takomagov.org. *(Recreation)*

25. FY 2013 Living Wage Rate Established: Ordinance 2007-55

(<http://takomaparkmd.gov/clerk/ordinances/2007/or200755.pdf>) amending the City Code to require the payment of a living wage by certain City contractors, became effective January 1, 2008. Each year on April 1, the City Manager establishes the living wage rate, which shall be equal to the Montgomery County living wage rate established and published by Montgomery County pursuant to Section 11B-33A of the Montgomery County Code and any applicable regulations, as amended from time to time. The current living wage rate is \$13.20 per hour. Effective July 1, 2012, the rate will be \$13.65 per hour. *(City Clerk)*

26. The Officers in a Meeting: On March 28, Chief Ricucci held an all-hands meeting to announce his retirement effective July 30, 2012. *(Police)*

27. Officers in Training:

- On March 19 and 20, Pfc. Atwell, Pfc. Mueller and Pvt. Goldin attended training entitled "Emergency Vehicle Operations" held at the MPCTC Driver Training Facility in Sykesville.
- On March 21, various sworn personnel attended Active Shooter Training.
- On March 27-29, Sgt. Poole, Cpl. Erwin and Det. Cannatella attended training entitled "Law Enforcement Active Shooter Response" held at the MPCTC Public Safety & Educational Training Facility in Sykesville.
- On March 29, various sworn personnel attended Active Shooter Training. *(Police)*

28. Crime Report: The most recent Takoma Park Police Weekly Crime Report (March 23-29, 2012) may be viewed online at: http://cathypelevy.blogspot.com/2012/03/takoma-park-police-department-weekly_30.html. *(Police)*

29. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 107 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, five vehicle impounds and one Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) arrest from traffic.

During March 25-28, 2012, the following details were completed:

March 25, 2012

- Maple Avenue at Lincoln Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.

March 26, 2012

- Philadelphia Avenue at Boston Avenue (failure to drive right of center) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.
- Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued 10 State citations.
- Takoma Langley Crossroads Area (tag reader/suspensions) – conducted a detail at various times and issued 12 State citations.

March 27, 2012

- Takoma Langley Crossroads Area (tag reader/suspensions) – conducted a detail at various times and issued eight State citations.
- Ethan Allen Avenue at Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued seven State citations.
- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and one warning.

March 28, 2012

- Flower Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five State citations. *(Police)*

30. Traffic Officer Stats (Cpl. Michelle Holmes):

Week of March 23-28, 2012

State Citations issued: 74

City Citations issued: 12

Safety Equipment Repair Orders: 3

Warnings: 1

Court: 3.5 hours

(Police)